14 June 2000

Original: English

Committee for Programme and Coordination
Fortieth session
5 June-30 June 2000 (Part I)
Agenda item 8
Adoption of the report of the Committee on its fortieth session

Programme questions: proposed medium-term plan for the period 2002-2005

(Item 3 (b))

Review of the proposed medium-term plan for the period 2002-2005 by sectoral, functional and regional bodies

1. During the discussion by the Committee for Programme and Coordination (CPC) of the introduction to the proposed medium-term plan for the period 2002-2005 (A/55/16 (Introduction)), on 9 June 2000, the Secretariat was requested to provide information on the review of the draft proposed medium-term plan by the relevant sectoral, functional and regional bodies. The Secretariat was also requested to provide reports of such bodies to the Committee.

2. Annexes I-IV below provide an overview of action taken by the relevant intergovernmental bodies and by the Secretariat. The relevant documents, as available, can be provided to the Committee as necessary.

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Annex I

Overview of action taken on the review of the draft proposed medium-term plan for the period 2002-2005 by relevant intergovernmental bodies and the Secretariat

Programme and subprogramme	*Sectoral, functional or regional body*	*Document and document number*[a]	*Comments*
1. Political affairs			
Subprogramme 1 Prevention, control and resolution of conflicts	None	-	
Subprogramme 2 Electoral assistance	None	-	
Subprogramme 3 Security Council affairs	Security Council	-	The Council does not review the Department's objectives or work plans.
Subprogramme 4 Decolonization	Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples	-	The views of the Special Committee were communicated to the Chairman of CPC by the Acting Chairman of the Special Committee in a letter dated 30 March 2000. These views were taken into account in the preparation of the proposed medium-term plan.
Subprogramme 5 Question of Palestine	Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People	-	The Committee reviewed and orally endorsed the draft medium-term plan in November 1999. Comments on the draft were taken into account.
2. Disarmament	Disarmament Commission	A/54/42, paragraphs 8-11 (1 September 1999)	General oral comments on the draft were made by the Commission and were taken into account in the preparation of the proposed medium-term plan.
3. Peacekeeping operations	Special Committee on Peacekeeping Operations	-	The proposed medium-term plan was not reviewed.
4. Peaceful uses of outer space	Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space	Not yet issued	The Committee is meeting in the second week of June 2000, which will be the first opportunity for considering the medium-term plan. Comments from that Committee will be made available to CPC as soon as they are received by the Secretariat. On a preliminary basis, however, the Secretariat has been informed that the Committee does not have any comments.
5. Legal affairs			
Subprogrammes 1-4 and 6	None	-	

[a] Relevant excerpts will be distributed.

Programme and subprogramme	*Sectoral, functional or regional body*	*Document and document number*	*Comments*
Subprogramme 5 Progressive harmonization and unification of the law of international trade	United Nations Commission on International Trade Law (UNCITRAL)	-	The Bureau of UNCITRAL reviewed and orally endorsed the draft medium-term plan during UNCITRAL's session held in Vienna from 17 May to 4 June 1999.
6. General Assembly and Economic and Social Council affairs and conference services	Committee on Conferences	A/54/32, paragraphs 177-181 (15 September 1999)	The observations of the Committee were taken into account in the preparation of the proposed medium-term plan.
7. Economic and Social affairs			
Subprogramme 1 Economic and Social Council support and coordination	None	-	
Subprogramme 2 Gender issues and advancement of women	Commission on the Status of Women	E/2000/27, Supplement No. 7 (not yet available)	The Commission took note of the draft of the proposed medium-term plan.
Subprogramme 3 Social policy and development	Commission for Social Development	E/2000/26, Supplement No. 6 (not yet available)	The Commission took note of the draft of the proposed medium-term plan.
Subprogramme 4 Sustainable development	Commission on Sustainable Development	E//2000/29, Supplement No. 9 (not yet available); draft decision: E/CN.17/2000/L.5	The Commission took note of the draft medium-term plan.
Subprogramme 5 Statistics	Statistical Commission	E/2000/24, Supplement No. 4	The Commission took note of the draft medium-term plan.
Subprogramme 6 Population	Commission on Population and Development	E/2000/25, Supplement No. 5 (not yet available)	The Commission took note of the draft medium-term plan.
Subprogramme 7 Global development trends, issues and policies	None	-	
Subprogramme 8 Public administration, finance and development	Meeting of Experts on the United Nations Programme in Public Administration and Finance	E/2000/66 (not yet available)	In its recommendation No. 1 addressed to the Economic and Social Council, the Meeting of Experts recommended that the proposed medium-term plan be adopted with a number of changes. The changes appear in annex II.
8. Africa: New Agenda for Development	Committee for Programme and Coordination (A/54/16, para. 57)	-	

Programme and subprogramme	*Sectoral, functional or regional body*	*Document and document number*	*Comments*
9. Trade and development			
Subprogrammes 1-5 (United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD)	Trade and Development Board/Working Party on the Medium-term Plan and the Programme Budget	TD/B/EX(24)/L.3 (22 March 2000)	The conclusions of the Working Party have been taken into account in the preparation of the proposed medium-term plan.
Subprogramme 6 International Trade Centre (ITC)	Joint Advisory Group on the International Trade Centre UNCTAD/World Trade Organization	ITC/AG(XXXIII)/ 181 (26 April 2000)	The Joint Advisory Group took note of the proposed medium-term plan.
10. Environment	Committee of Permanent Representatives and High-level Committee of Ministers and Officials	UNEP/HLC/4/4 (20 December 1999)	Following a number of observations, the Committee endorsed a draft proposed medium-term plan. These observations have been taken into account in the preparation of the proposed medium-term plan.
11. Human settlements	Commission on Human Settlements	-	The session of the Commission is scheduled for 2001 (no session was scheduled in 2000). Member States were consulted through the Committee of Permanent Representatives and views expressed have been taken into account in the preparation of the proposed medium-term plan.
12. Crime prevention and criminal justice	Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice	E/2000/30	Comments were made by Member States, but no formal decision was taken by the Commission.
13. International drug control	Commission on Narcotic Drugs	-	The proposed medium-term plan was circulated at the forty-third session of the Commission from 6 to 15 March 2000. No comments were made and no decision was taken.
14. Economic and social development in Africa	Economic Commission for Africa/Ministerial Follow-up Committee of the Conference of African Ministers responsible for Economic and Social Development and Planning	Draft resolution I of the Ministerial Follow-up Committee on 5 May 2000	The Committee endorsed the proposed medium-term plan.
15. Economic and social development in Asia and the Pacific	Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP)	E/2000/39, Supplement No. 19 (only available as E/ESCAP/L.144)	The Commission deliberated on the proposed medium-term plan at its fifty-sixth session from 1 to 7 June 2000. Its comments have not yet been taken into account. Proposed revisions reflecting the Commission's recommendations appear in annex III.

Programme and subprogramme	*Sectoral, functional or regional body*	*Document and document number*	*Comments*
16. Economic development in Europe	Economic Commission for Europe (ECE)/Group of Experts on the Programme of Work	Report of the Chairman Group of Experts: E/ECE/1380; Report of ECE: E/2000/37, Supplement No. 17 (not yet available)	The Group of Experts reviewed the draft medium-term plan in December 1999 and expressed its general agreement with the draft. Its comments have been reflected in the proposed medium-term plan.
17. Economic and social development in Latin America and the Caribbean	Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC)	E/2000/40, Supplement No. 20 (not yet available)	Consultations were held through correspondence with individual Member States. Nine Member States provided comments to the Secretariat, which have been reflected in the proposed medium-term plan. No formal decision was taken by the Commission at its twenty-eighth session held in Mexico City in April 2000. However, the Commission made a reference to the proposed medium term plan in its resolution 578 (XXVIII) entitled "Programme of work of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean".
18. Economic and social development in Western Asia	Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (ESCWA)/Technical Committee	Report of the Technical Committee: E/ESCWA/20/4; Report of ESCWA: E/1999/41, Supplement No. 21, paragraph 33	A draft of the proposed medium-term plan was reviewed by the Technical Committee in 1999, and its comments were endorsed by ESCWA in that year. The comments have been reflected in the proposed medium-term plan.
19. Human rights	Commission on Human Rights	E/2000/23, Supplement No. 3	The proposed medium-term plan was circulated at the fifty-sixth session of the Commission on Human Rights as document E/CN.4/2000/CRP.2. No comments were made and no decision was taken.
20. Humanitarian assistance	None	-	
21. Protection of and assistance to refugees	Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) Standing Committee	EC/50/SC/CRP.13	The comments of the Standing Committee have been taken into account in preparing the proposed medium-term plan.
22. Palestinian refugees	None	-	
23. Public information	Committee on Information	A/AC.198/2000/L.3	Amendments proposed orally during the Committee's deliberation and adoption of the report appear in annex IV.

Programme and subprogramme	*Sectoral, functional or regional body*	*Document and document number*	*Comments*
24. Management and central support services	None	-	
25. Internal oversight	None	-	

Annex II

Comments of the Meeting of Experts on the United Nations Programme in Public Administration and Finance on programme 7, subprogramme 8 (Public administration and finance), of the medium-term plan for the period 2002-2005

Para. 7.36. Insert the following after the first sentence:

"Particular attention should be given to: (a) the strengthening of countries' policy development, institutional and managerial capacity to deal with globalization and (b) the respective roles of the State and the market in the development process."

Para. 7.37. Add the following:

"(f) Interface and cooperate with organizations within the United Nations system in this field."

Para. 7.38. Replace the entire text with the following:

"(a) Improved intergovernmental dialogue and facilitation of consensus-building and decision-making regarding the emerging consequences of globalization on the State;

"(b) Broadened common understanding of and approaches to public management and changing Governments' capacities;

"(c) Strengthened institutional and human resources of government capacities;

"(d) Broader and deeper understanding of major effects of public administration and public finance on civil society;

"(e) Improved interface and coordination between the intergovernmental and regional policy deliberations and operational activities of the United Nations system in the field of public administration, finance and development;

"(f) Enhanced understanding of development of the Internet on the role of the State;

"(g) Enhanced capacity to assess emerging vulnerabilities in government capacities;

"(h) Improved understanding of complex regulatory practices for emerging global standards;

"(i) Greater anticipation of governmental and non-governmental entities in the proactive work of the United Nations Programme in Public Administration and Finance."

Para. 7.39. Add the following:

"(d) The number and quality of analytical reports and publications on emerging issues in public administration and finance."

Annex III

Proposed revisions based on the comments of the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific on programme 15 (Economic and social development in Asia and the Pacific) of the proposed medium-term plan for the period 2002-2005

Page 2, paragraph 15.8 (a), line 5

After "environment" *add* "as well as developments in information technology"

Page 3, paragraph 15.11, last line of the left column

Delete "and"

Page 3, paragraph 15.11, last line of the right column

After "economies in transition" *insert* "; and (d) positive evaluation of the effectiveness and impact of ESCAP outputs and services by the users, including Governments"

Page 3, paragraph 15.12, line 6

After "processes" *insert* ", as well as developments in information technology"

Page 3, paragraph 15.13 (b), line 3

After "globalization" *insert* "and developments in information technology"

Page 3, paragraph 15.13 (c), line 10

After "liberalization" *insert* "as well as developments in information technology"

Page 4, paragraph 15.13

At the end of (e), add the following sentence:

"In this connection, emphasis will be placed on analytical work on economic and financial monitoring and surveillance in the region, in close consultation with international and financial institutions, in order to respond in a timely way to new challenges arising from globalization."

Page 4, paragraph 15.15 (d)

Replace the existing text with the following:

"positive evaluation of the effectiveness and impact of ESCAP outputs and services by the users, including Governments."

Page 4, paragraph 15.17 (a), lines 5-6

Replace "including older persons and people living with disabilities" *with the following*:

"with greater focus on people living with disabilities, and including older peoples"

Page 4, paragraph 15.17 (a), last two lines

Replace "accessibility in the physical environments" *with the following*:

"improving access to the physical environment, infrastructure and information technology"

Page 5

After 15.17 (c), add the following new paragraph:

"The above will be achieved through (a) the promotion of wider information exchange through intergovernmental and expert group meetings, technical publications and increased use of media and information technology; (b) support for national institution-building initiatives, including human resources development through group training and advisory services; and (c) the strengthening of regional networks and cooperation, especially with other United Nations and subregional intergovernmental bodies."

Page 6, paragraph 15.21 (b), line 8

After "in 1994", *add* "the recommendations arising from the General Assembly special session on the overall review and appraisal of the implementation of the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development ('Cairo + 5'),"

Page 6, paragraph 15.24, line 8

Delete "and"

Page 6, paragraph 15.24, line 10

After "framework" *insert* "; and (d) positive evaluation of the effectiveness and impact of ESCAP outputs and services by the users, including Governments"

Page 7, paragraph 15.25, line 7

After "1997", *insert* "the outcome of the ten-year review of Agenda 21 ('Rio + 10'), scheduled to be held in 2000,"

Page 8, paragraph 15.29 (a)

Replace the text with the following:

"positive evaluation of the effectiveness and impact of ESCAP outputs and services by the users, including Governments"

Page 9, paragraph 15.34, line 13

Delete "and"

Page 9, paragraph 15.34

At the end of the paragraph, add "; and (g) positive evaluation of the effectiveness and impact of ESCAP outputs and services by the users, including Governments."

Page 10, paragraph 15.38

At the end of this paragraph, add the following:

"; and (e) positive evaluation of the effectiveness and impact of ESCAP outputs and services by the users, including Governments."

Annex IV

Comments of the Committee on Information on programme 23 (Public information) of the proposed medium-term plan for the period 2002-2005

"Paragraph 23.2, last sentence: the sentence should be redrafted as follows: 'Particular attention will be given to the areas of special interest to developing countries, in particular the special needs of African countries and where appropriate other countries with economies in transition in order to contribute to bridging the gap between developing and developed countries in the field of public information and communications.'

"Paragraph 23.8: at the end of the sentence, add the following: 'as well as multilateral development issues, disarmament, eradication of AIDS pandemic, dialogue among civilizations and natural disasters'.

"Paragraph 23.8: change the reference to 'self-determination' to 'decolonization'."